Project on old age and income security for senior citizens

475. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have commissioned any project on old age and income security as a welfare measure for the senior citizens of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of senior citizens covered under the project in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the facilities being extended to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment had commissioned, in August, 1998 a Project OASIS (an acronym of Old Age Social and Income Security) to examine policy questions connected with old age income security in India and submit its recommendations to the Government. The Committee, headed by Dr. S. A. Dave, former Chairman of Unit Trust of India, submitted its final report to the Government on 11.1.2000. The report contains recommendations on the schemes and actions that Government may take to ensure that every young worker builds up enough savings during his/her working life, which could serve as a shield against poverty during their old age. The recommendations contained in the report have a twin focus on further improving existing pension provisions and to devise a fresh pension plan for such workers who are not included in the present pension provisions but are capable of saving modest amounts and converting these savings into Old Age Income Security.

(c) and (d) The questions do not arise as the report is still under consideration of the Government.

Welfare schemes for upliftment of SCs, STs, minorities etc.

476. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new welfare schemes formulated and implemented, so far, by Government in different parts of the country for the upliftment of SCs,

STs, Minorities, Widows, Orphans, terrorist affected children, handicapped and disabled persons and other weaker sections of the society, scheme-wise/ State-wise;

(b) the details of total financial assistance granted and spent, so far, in the implementation of the above schemes during the last three years and till date; and

(c) the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The details of new welfare schemes formulated and implemented so far by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in different parts of the country for the upliftment of SCs, STs, Minorities etc. during the last three years are placed at statement.

Statement

The details of new welfare schemes for the upliftment of SCs, STs, Minorities etc.

Disability Sector

The following schemes have been approved by the Government in 1999-2000

1. Setting up of Composite Regional Centres for persons with disabilities in different parts of the country to provide services to persons with disabilities as also creating infrastructure for training and manpower development, promoting research and generating awareness. The funds for this scheme, are released to National Institutes working for the welfare of disabled. Since the inception of the scheme an expenditure of Rs.1.5 crores has been incurred.

2. Setting up of Regional Rehabilitation Centres for persons with spinal injuries and other orthopeadic disabilities to strengthen services. The funds of this scheme are released to National Institutes working for the welfare of disabled. Since the inception of the scheme an expenditure of Rs. 2.00 crores has been incurred.

Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

The following schemes were launched by the Government for the welfare and development of OBCs in 1998-99.

1. Pre Matric Scholarship for OBCs

Under this scheme, scholarships are awarded in the case of students whose parents/guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 44,500/- per annum. The scholarships are to be given to the students in Class I or any subsequent class of pre-matric stage in the case of day scholars and class II or any subsequent class of pre-matric stage in the case of hostellers. The scholarship will terminate at the end of class X. The duration of scholarship in an academic year will be 10 months. The scholarship will be available through such institutions and for such pre matriculation courses which have been duly recognized by the concerned State Government and Union Territories Admn. 50% Central Assistance will be provided to the State Government under the scheme. The State-wise details of funds released/spent under the scheme during last three years and till date are given as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Bihar	84.60	Nil	Nil
2.	A.P.	Nil	325.00	Nil
3.	M.P.	64.00	Nil	Nil
4.	Tripura	1.40	100.00	95.785
5.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	16.00
	TOTAL:	150.00	425.00	111.785

2. Post Matric Scholarship to the OBC Students for Studies in India

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the OBC students studying at Post Matriculation or Post Secondary stages to enable them to complete their education. These scholarships are available for studies in India only. They are awarded through the State Government/UT Admn. to

which the applicant actually belongs. 100% central assistance is provided to State Governments/UT Administrations for this purpose. These scholarships are given for study in recognized institutions. Unemployed students whose parents/guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 44,500 per annum are entitled for scholarship under this scheme. The State-wise details of funds released/spent under the scheme during last three years and till date are given as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Bihar	196.50	Nil	Nil
2.	A.P.	116.00	324.26	Nil
3.	M.P.	149.00	Nil	Nil
4	Tripura	3.00	55.00	Nil
5.	Karnataka	Nil	118.00	Nil
6.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	91.36
7.	Goa	Nil	Nil	25.00
	Total:	464.50	497.26	116.36

3. Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls

The scheme aims at providing better education opportunities to students belonging to socially and educationally backward classes notified as such in the Central State/UT Admn. list of OBCs, generally referred to as other backward classes. It would, however, not cover students belonging to the creamy layer as defined by the Government of India. Hostels under the scheme will be constructed in the States/UTs, which have a large OBC population, but inadequate hostels facilities. Under the scheme, 50% central assistance is given to States for such construction. These hostels will be constructed for middle, secondary, college and university level students. Out of the hostels to be set up under this scheme, at least one third will be exclusively for girls. Five per cent of the total seat in these hostels shall be reserved for disabled students. The State-wise details of funds released/spent under the scheme during last three years and till date are given as under:

(Rs.. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Bihar	120.53	Nil	Nil
2.	A.P.	Nil	144.26	Nil
3.	M.P.	10.00	Nil	Nil
4.	Rajasthan	Nil	57.48	Nil
5.	Karnataka	Nil	78.26	Nil
6.	Sikkim	Nil	20.00	Nil
	Total:	130.53	300.00	Nil

4. Schemes of assistance to voluntary organizations for the welfare of OBCs

The aim of the scheme is to involve the voluntary sector to improve educational and socio-economic conditions of the target group *i.e.* OBCs through skill upgradation and enable them to start income generating activities on their own or get gainfully employed.

The quantum of assistance is determined in each case on merit. The Government of India may however, meet 90% of the approved expenditure on any or all of the specified items under the scheme. The State- wise details of funds released/spent under the scheme during last three years and till date are given as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	A.P.	11.18	15.82	3.28
2.	Assam	2.70	4.32	4.45
3.	Gujarat	Nil	0.89	1.43
4.	Haryana	Nil	7.33	2.21
5.	Karnataka	Nil	1.55	Nil

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
6.	M.P.	8.50	Nil	13.07
7.	Maharashtra	27.65	20.13	5.60
8.	Manipur	2.16	10.56	12.31
9.	Orissa	2.69	3.66	5.76
10.	Sikkim	1.73	Nil	2.11
11	Tamil Nadu	Nil	0.95	2.81
12.	U.P.	5.59	25.11	7.68
13.	West Bengal	1.13	5.66	1.28
14.	Delhi	1.13	11.02	1.17
	Total:	64.46	107.00	63.16

5. Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for OBCs

The objective of the scheme is to coach/train candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes to enable them to compete on equal terms in various competitive/entrance examination covering:

(a) Recruitment to various services under the Central and State Government, Public and Private Sector Undertakings Banks, GIC, LIC, etc., and Defence Forces, State and Central Police Forces and Para Military Forces.

(b) Admission to technical, vocational, engineering medical, agricultural Management Courses etc.

The candidates whose parents or guardians total income from all sources including the income of the candidates is below Rs. 1.00 lakh annually is eligible for admission in the Pre-examination Coaching Centre under the Scheme. The scheme is being implemented through National and State level professional coaching institutions of repute and possessing competence in the field. The organizations are funded to the extent of 100%. The State-wise details of funds released/spent under the scheme during last three years and till date are given as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Assam	6.78	Nil	Nil
2.	Kerala	3.33	Nil	Nil
3.	M.P.	5.19	2.13	Nil
4.	Orissa	2.12	0.85	Nil
	TOTAL:	17.42	2.98	Nil

Tribal Affairs

A new Central Sector Scheme for the Development of Primitive Tribal Groups has been introduced during 1998-99. Under the scheme, 100% assistance is available to Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs), Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) and NGOs for undertaking activities, such as awareness generation and confidence building training for skill development of tribal youth organization of self help groups and provision of services/inputs not covered by any existing scheme. The financial assistance incurred under the scheme since is as follows:—

Statement showing allocation of funds under the Central Sector Scheme of Development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) during 1998-99 and 1999-2000. In 2000-2001 (as on date) an expenditure of Rs. 12.50 crores has been incurred.

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State	Implemening Agencies	1998-99 Allocation of funds	1999-2000 Allocation of funds
1.	Andhra Pradesh	ITDA TRI NGO	117.19	217.33
2.	Bihar	ITDP TRI NGO	100.00	

S.No.	State	Implemening Agencies	1998-99 Allocation of funds	1999-2000 Allocation of funds
3.	Gujarat	ITDP		
		TRI		16.80
		NGO		
4.	Kerala	ITDP		
		TRI		
		NGO	8.15	25.63
5.	Karnataka	ITDP		
		TRI		
		NGO	8.91	4.02
6.	Madhya Pradesh	ITDP	100.00	132.00
		TRI		
		NGO		3.88
7.	Maharashtra	ITDP		15.00
		TRI		
		NGO		
8.	Manipur	ITDP		
		TRI		
		NGO	4.65	9.74
9.	Orissa	ITDP		25.72
		TRI		28.82
		NGO	21.31	
10.	Rajasthan	ITDP		
		TRI	33.50	
		NGO		
11.	Tripura	ITDP	100.00	100.00
		TRI		
		NGO		8.87
12.	Uttar Pradesh	ITDP		74.80
		TRI		
		NGO		
	TOTAL:		493.71	662.61